

**I. Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Claims**

1-26 (cancelled).

27. (currently amended) A modular hookah comprising:

a base, dimensioned to contain a substantial amount of fluid, with an internally threaded upper end for receiving dry smoke; and

The modular hookah of claim 25 wherein said stem comprises:

a stem, with an intermediate tube, having an upper end and a lower end,

defining said a dry smoke aperture; and

a plenum further defining said dry smoke aperture and defining said a wet

smoke aperture oriented to accept wet smoke from said base, said plenum

having an upper end adapted to removably fasten to said lower end of said

intermediate tube and an externally threaded lower end configured to mate with

said threaded upper end of said base,[:] and

wherein said stem terminates in a selectively releasable peripheral said-down tube,

defining said dry smoke aperture and dimensioned to substantially penetrate said base,

and with has an upper end adapted to removably fasten to said plenum.

28. (currently amended) The modular hookah of claim 27 further comprising an intermediate tube upper cap in releasable attachment to both said intermediate tube and said a burner.

29. (previously presented) The modular hookah of claim 28 further comprising an intermediate tube lower cap in releasable attachment to both said intermediate tube and said plenum.

30. (previously presented) The modular hookah of claim 29 further comprising an intermediate tube cover dimensioned to house said intermediate tube.

31. (previously presented) The modular hookah of claim 27 wherein said intermediate tube is adapted to theadably fasten to said plenum and said plenum is adapted to threadably fasten with both said down tube and said base.

32. (previously presented) The modular hookah of claim 31 further comprising a burner adapted to removably fasten to said intermediate tube.

33. (previously presented) The modular hookah of claim 32 wherein said burner is adapted to threadably fasten to said intermediate tube.

34. (cancelled)

35. (currently amended) A modular hookah comprising:  
a base, dimensioned to contain a substantial amount of fluid, with a threaded  
upper end for receiving dry smoke; and  
a stem, having a threaded lower end configured to mate with said threaded  
upper end of said base, terminating in a selectively releasable peripheral down  
tube dimensioned to substantially penetrate said base, said stem defining a dry  
smoke aperture oriented to conduct dry smoke into said base and a wet smoke  
aperture oriented to accept wet smoke from said base, and  
wherein said stem further defines a pressure release aperture selectively  
obstructed by a pressure release valve, and

~~The modular hookah of claim 34 wherein said pressure release valve includes a threaded connection for releasably affixing to said stem.~~

36-46. (cancelled)

47. (new) A modular hookah comprising:

a base, dimensioned to contain a substantial amount of fluid, with a threaded upper end for receiving dry smoke; and

a stem, having a threaded lower end configured to mate with said threaded upper end of said base, terminating in a selectively releasable peripheral down tube dimensioned to substantially penetrate said base, said stem defining a dry smoke aperture oriented to conduct dry smoke into said base and a wet smoke aperture oriented to accept wet smoke from said base,

wherein said threaded upper end of said base comprises internal threading, and

said threaded lower end of said stem comprises external threading, and

wherein said stem comprises:

an intermediate tube, having an upper end and a lower end, defining said dry smoke aperture;

a plenum further defining said dry smoke aperture and defining said wet smoke aperture, said plenum having an upper end adapted to removably fasten to said lower end of said intermediate tube; and

wherein said down tube has an upper end adapted to removably fasten to said plenum.